



In Support of Sylvia Boykin

November 16, 2015

To Who It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Sylvia Boykin, OC3555. My wife Deb and I hope this will somehow be of great benefit to Sylvia in obtaining Parole for her sometime in the near future.

We have known Sylvia for over 2 years now. We came to know her through fellow members of the church of Christ of which we are all members. She became a member of the Lord's church many years ago. As Sylvia acknowledges, in the years after that and prior to her incarceration she had not been faithful to the Lord in any meaningful way. Her incarceration has allowed her to have a lot of time to reflect on the many bad decisions she has made in her life. Sylvia has often expressed how grateful she is that God through Jesus is a loving and forgiving God. She has expressed many times her remorse for the things she's done and the sorrow she has caused other people.

Because of her repentant attitude, she has dedicated a large portion of her life behind bars to improving herself spiritually so that she could help others who have found themselves in the same situation as herself. She has spent a large portion of her time studying the Bible so that she might become the person that Jesus, her Lord and Savior, desires her to become. Sylvia has allowed God's word to truly transform her into the kind of person that God can now use in His service. Because of this, We believe Sylvia can and will be a great force for good as she allows God to continue to use her in His service if she were to be granted parole at this time in her life.

My wife and I continue to visit with Sylvia several times a month and to support her a little financially. We are never disappointed with the loving and kind disposition she exhibits during our visits. Her change is real. Her heart's desire to live like God wants her to live is real.

My wife and I would like to humbly ask that you would allow Sylvia to have another chance at life on the outside of prison. As people who are now retired, we would be able to help Sylvia in any way needed to re-acclimate herself to society. She would have lots of church family also helping her in every way possible.

Your decision to grant her Parole would not disappoint.

Thank you again for giving her strong consideration for this request.

Sincerely,

Doug and Debbie Bullington

Ms. Gloria Jacqueline Schulze

June 14, 2015

Mrs. Hagy
c/o Pennsylvania Board of Pardons
333 Market Street
15th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

RE: Sylvia Boykin #32392 Application

Dear Mrs. Hagy:

I am retired from employment with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Revenue as an Inheritance Tax Examiner. I moved to Williamsport after retirement to live with my son, Dr. Frederick Schulze, Professor, Health Science, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania. In Williamsport, I became involved with a local church and was asked to correspond with a female inmate named Sylvia Boykin. Parishioners are involved in some prison ministry. I am writing the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons to pardon Sylvia Boykin.

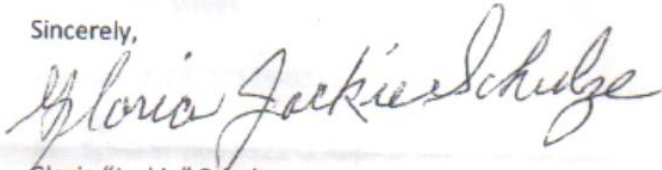
I wholeheartedly believe the story related to me by Sylvia Boykin. She was given a life sentence apparently because she drove the vehicle in which an acquaintance was given a ride and subsequently murdered a person in relation to a drug deal. Sylvia was not aware of the plans of the acquaintance and he did not inform her at any time of his intent. Further, when he exited the home of the victim and asked her to drop him off at another location she still was not aware of the murder. She has already served twenty three years of a sentence and her behavior in prison and the family obligations outside of prison indicate a desire to re-integrate in society.

Sylvia had not been in prison prior to this sentence. She was gainfully employed in Philadelphia and was attempting to create a life for herself and a family. Two jobs she held included as an Investigator for bad checks with the Federal Reserve Bank, 701 Byrd Street, Richmond, VA. She also worked for the Internal Revenue Service as a toll-free operator taking fraud reports and form orders. This was the IRS Distribution Center, 4000 Carolina Avenue, Richmond, VA. While childhood experiences are often overcome, I do believe her experience may have influenced some decision-making later in life. For example, she had a difficult childhood and was sexually assaulted by her brother. Her brother instructed her not to tell other family members. As you know, childhood sexual abuse can cause trauma to its victims much later in life. Regarding her incarceration behavior, she has completed a college course, groups, became a Certified Peer Specialist and had jobs including secretary for the Chaplain, GED tutor and law clerk. As you can see, she has made an effort to demonstrate a willingness to integrate well with others.

On the outside, Sylvia has family. She has a sister, nieces, nephews, three daughters and grandchildren. As you know, family can provide a great deal of reinforcement. I do believe the existence of her family would provide a great deal of power in her re-integration with society. Further, I realize many inmates discover faith only while in prison and do not necessarily integrate it in their lives. Sylvia had a religious commitment prior to prison. I sincerely believe Sylvia is honest in her commitment to her faith and will continue that outside of prison.

Once again, I ask the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons to pardon Sylvia Boykin. I am willing to testify in person at a hearing in Harrisburg or other location. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gloria "Jackie" Schulze

South Williamsport Church of Christ
358 East Central Avenue
South Williamsport, PA 17702-7424
(570) 322-3734

Board of Pardons for Clemency
C/O Sylvia Boykin, #OC3555
P.O. Box 180
Muncy, PA 17756

Honorable Board Members:

With humble heart and much hope I write to you on behalf of Miss Sylvia Boykin, an inmate currently residing at the State Correctional Institution for Women at Muncy, PA. Please consider my words as supporting testimony for Miss Boykin's clemency request.

I am a minister of the gospel and have been working with the South Williamsport Church of Christ for the last three years. Over my last ten years of ministry I have worked, at various times, for about five years with inmates in both the county and state prison systems. About two years ago I received several requests from Sylvia's family members asking if I would visit and study with Sylvia. I gladly accepted these requests and have been working with Sylvia, as her Spiritual Advisor, for some two years now.

While I intend no disrespect, nor call into question anyone's religious belief(s) or even the lack thereof, I believe that much good could be brought to and accomplished by all people, if they heard, received, studied and rightly applied the Bible (God's word) in their lives. There are many grand principles of right moral and ethical conduct taught within the pages of God's word (i.e. Matthew 7:12 the "Golden Rule"; Galatians 6:9-10 doing good unto others; Romans 13:1-7 obeying civil government and its leaders). These principles would, if faithfully and obediently practiced, not only build a better character of person, but also better relationships between people. This could not help but lighten the overwhelming burden our civil governments carry in maintaining civil peace and order.

Over the approximately two years I have been working with Sylvia I have witnessed, and continue to see, a change in her attitude, actions and accountability. I am under no grand delusion that Sylvia, upon her release will be a perfect member of society, for no one, not a single individual, not even me, is perfect in all that we do. The real question is whether or not she can change so as to be a productive and responsible member of society.

I know from our studies and visits that Sylvia accepts responsibility and accountability for her part in the unlawful actions she was convicted of. While in prison she has taken numerous classes, received counseling and worked different jobs in order to improve herself.

The People of God, United by the Love of God,
Conforming to the image of God's Son, Ready to do the Work of God

Sylvia has also taken and completed two lengthy Bible correspondence courses (twenty and twenty-two lessons respectively), a tribute to her desire to learn, grow and change. Sylvia has spoken of her wish, if granted clemency, to work with and help other women avoid the pitfalls and troubles she encountered that led to her unlawfulness and conviction. In addition, Sylvia has expressed a longing desire to help her children and grandchildren by taking them from the environment that brought her many troubles and relocating them to a safer place.

I realize that you have never met me nor know me, but I believe Sylvia can change, has changed and will continue to change. One more great principle from the Bible is that of mercy. May you consider such for Sylvia. I thank you for graciously reading and listening to my words.

In His Service,



Charlie Frampton
Minister

Pennsylvania Board of Pardons for Clemency
c/o Sylvia Boykin OC-3555
333 Market Street
15th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is to support Ms Sylvia Boykin in her quest for Pardon.

I am a Licensed Social Worker with the State of Pennsylvania, and for the past 19 years have worked for Philadelphia Society for Services to Children, helping families provide nurturing and stable homes for children.

Since the early 1990's, our organization has received State funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, to provide bus trip visitation for children and their relative caregivers from Philadelphia, PA, whose mothers were incarcerated at SCI-Muncy.

Ms Boykin's children were among the first children to participate in this program, which is known as the Kids n' Kin program. Over the years, they have continued to visit Ms Boykin via our bi-monthly bus trip, even as they have grown and have children of their own. Throughout this time, we have noted Ms Boykin to be a positive parent to her children throughout their adolescence and into their adulthood, and have noted that she has continued to have a positive impact in her role as grandparent.

Ms Boykin has been tremendously supportive of the Kids n' Kin program, and at my request has participated a number of times on a workshop panel to introduce the program to other mothers whose children live with relatives.

In addition, Ms Boykin's children, who are now in their late 20's, have partnered with our organization by participating in a video-training sponsored by the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), to train social service providers in the clinical issues faced by children who have incarcerated parents.

I am happy to write this letter in support of Ms Sylvia Boykin,

Sincerely, 
Brenda Rich, MSW, LSW
Supervisor

Formerly known as: Philadelphia Society for Services to Children & Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania

415 S. 15th Street Philadelphia, PA 19146 T 215-875-3400 F 215-875-3411

1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1004 Philadelphia, PA 19107 T 215-546-2990 F 215-546-3226

www.turningpointsforchildren.org



September 30, 2015

Dear Counselor- Mrs. Dixon,
RE: Sylvia Boykin OC3555

Ms. Boykin is a friend of mine for years. We met her with my pastor while she was at Muncy Prison. Ms. Boykin has never done any wrong to me. And we have never had a dating relationship, only friends. I would like to be put on her visiting list. To be able to talk and phone her as needed. I always was there to encourage her. And with what she's been through she really needs that. Her daughters all have various health problems. And I do the same for them.

I have never been in prison, and I'm not a victim of Ms. Boykin. I know Ms. Boykin has a life sentence and been in prison 23 years now. But she has been a good friend, and enjoy getting her letters. I get laid off in November from the state park I work at. And I would like to be able to visit her during the time I'm off work. If you have any other questions please contact me. Thanks for your time. And god bless you.

Paul L. Weaver



We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

To: Mr. John Heaton
Secretary, Board of Pardons
333 Market Street
15th Floor
Harrisburg PA. 17126

From: Mike Shomo, Vocational Director, Y-Haven, YMCA of Greater Cleveland

Re: OC#3555 - Ms. Sylvia Boykin

My name is Michael W. Shomo I am the Vocational Director for Y-Haven Transitional Housing for Homeless Men. I work with men and women that have been incarcerated as well as homeless. My job training program has a 96% placement record and a 91% job retention record. I have worked with people that were drug abusers to people that have committed homicides. I know that people can change and live productive lives and give back to the community when given a second chance.

I would like to take this opportunity to speak about Ms. Sylvia Boykin, OC#3555. I have been in correspondence with her for quite some time. I find her to be a person that is remorseful for the past circumstances that led to her incarceration. As like many other inmates, Sylvia has endured family tragedies, but she has tried to keep her family on the right path in light of her circumstances, and has enjoyed helping other inmates to improve their life by helping them to learn to read when it could have been easier to give up and become bitter. It is a pleasure for me to say that her strength has kept me strong as I help others. I know in my heart that she will do exceptionally well when released. My staff and I will be here to assist her in making her transition in every way we can. We will commit to her success, just as she will.

It is my hope that Ms. Sylvia Boykin, OC#3555 is considered, and ultimately granted Clemency by the illustrious State of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Mike Shomo
(216) 431-2018 Ext. 245

YMCA of Greater Cleveland
Y-Haven - Traditional Housing for Homeless Men
6001 Woodland Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44104
Phone: 216-431-2018 • Fax: 216-431-2023

PA Board of Pardons for Clemency
C/O Sylvia Boykin OC-3555
333 Market Street
15th Floor
Harrisburg, Pa. 17126

To the Board of Clemency,

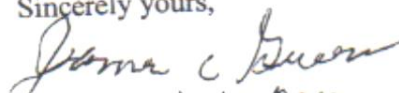
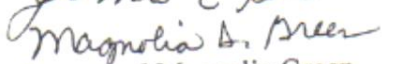
My wife, Magnolia and I have known Sylvia for a number of years while she was in Richmond, Virginia & Philadelphia.

We have visited her several times since she has been incarcerated, even on our anniversary. She still has that outgoing personality, much love for the Lord, her family, and those who come in contact with her are uplifted. She was baptized by my husband in Richmond, Virginia at Dill Avenue Church of Christ, which is Sandy Lane Church of Christ temporary worshiping at John Marshall High School.

Sylvia knowledge of God's word has increased. We see a different in her life. We see that she is "walking that walk." With her educational background, experience in working with others she will be beneficial to society.

Sylvia takes full responsibility for her action. She has learned from her previous action. We feel she would be a non-threatening individual in society, therefore we recommend Sylvia Boykin for clemency. We will always be a spiritual guidance for her and help her worship with a strong sound church family.

Sincerely yours,



James and Magnolia Green

10/2015

Geraldine P. Henderson

Pa Board Of Pardons
C/O Sylvia Boykin OC-3555
Harrisburg, a 17126

To The Board Of Clemency,

My name is Geraldine P Henderson, wife, mother, grand and great grandmother. I have been employed at Temple Hospital. For thirty-eight years, but consider my most valued credential as being a Christian. This has molded my character into a caring compassionate person to those I meet regardless of their circumstances.

Sylvia Boykin is a member of The New Generation Church Of Christ under the Pastoral ship of Elder Ida M Perry. I have been corresponding with Sylvia for fifteen or sixteen years of her incarceration also visiting and taking relatives to see her. Our visits are always spiritual as well as our correspondence.

Sylvia's priorities became confused in which she has often expressed regret. She has paid a dear price, as a Mother agonizing over her children while trying too advise them from Muncy. As a Christian Sylvia has remained faithful to her calling participating in prayer groups, choral singing, witnessing to others, praise dancing and much more.

One meaning of clemency is MERCY; I pray with all sincerity that you find it in your hearts to grant her a second chance a t life.

update
I have been employed at
Temple Hospital 44yrs now
I have been corresponding
with Sylvia 23 yrs and
visit her.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Geraldine P. Henderson".

Geraldine P Henderson

10/10/15

PA Board of Pardons for Clemency
C/O Sylvia Boykin 0C-3555
333 Market Street
15th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

To the Board of Clemency,

Humble, cheery, remorseful, thankful, and responsible are just a few words that come to mind when trying to describe Sylvia Boykin. My wife, Nancy, and I have had the pleasure of visiting Sylvia for over two years now, and each time we see her, she has a way of brightening our day.

We have both been Christians for most of our lives and currently worship with the South Williamsport Church of Christ. Nancy has been involved in education for about 20 years and I have been a photojournalist for 16 years. From these experiences with the community and co-workers, we consider ourselves to be of sound mind and good judges of character.

We were introduced to Sylvia during the summer of 2006, by our church minister Charles Frampton. During our first visit, she did not hesitate to tell us why she was incarcerated, taking full responsibility for her actions. Since then, we have visited her about twice a month studying the Bible, praying together and just visiting as friends. She has always been an open book to us, sharing family problems and triumphs. It is very clear to us by her increasing knowledge of the Bible that she is "walking the walk, and not just talking the talk" of Christ.

It is without reservation that we recommend Sylvia Boykin for clemency. She has often shared with us her experiences in working with others in education and in day to day events, which make us feel she would be a non-threatening productive member of society and beneficial to everyone she comes in contact with.

Sincerely,

Mark and Nancy Nance

To the Board of Pardons for Clemency:

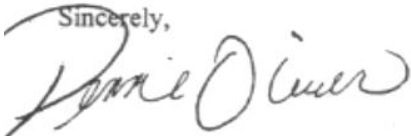
When my mother asked me to write a pardons letter, so many things went through my mind. What should I say? As a 32 year old single mother, I think of the hurt and pain my mother has put me through. I've come to realize that for 17 years my mother has shared in my hurt and pain also. For 17 years she has been apologizing for the pain we endured because of her decisions. I was 16 when my mother was incarcerated. Left with my two little sisters to care for, I knew I had a hard task to face for the rest of my life. In a matter of hours I went from big sister, to mother of two almost teenagers. While putting myself through high school, I also had to run a household. Though my grandmother was with us, I had to take on a lot of the responsibilities since my grandmother was about 76 when my mother left. Not to mention I got pregnant not too long after. Today I have three children, my eldest is 15. The relationship they have is so unique. My mother has always reached out to her grandkids. She never missed a birthday or holiday. When ever my son is in trouble in school or just need to talk, he writes my mother; she is the only person he feels comfortable talking too.

My mother always touched people's heart; she is always willing to help anyone no matter what relationship they have with one another. My mother has been a Christian mostly all of our lives. I feel my mother has come to terms and accepted what has happened in her past and takes full responsibility for her actions. Each visit we say a prayer for our family. Through letters and prayer I see that my mother is sincere about everything she says; especially for the family of the victim. Over the years my mother matured not only in mind and body, but in spirit. In everything that she does she seeks God first through prayer and supplication.

Remorseful would be a word I would use to describe my mother. In 17 years we have visited my mother almost every other month, and every time, she tells all the officers about her kids, and grandkids! I believe my mother deserves a second chance at life. She has a lot to offer this society, we need her, and her grandkids need her. My mother's faith keeps her going; she is a very strong. . .

individual. My mother has served 17 years incarcerated. I think she is rehabilitated and should be granted clemency. I ask that the Board of Pardons look upon this request with favor. I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Pennie Oliver

UPDATE

Oct 2015

I am now 39yrs old, my mother has been in prison now 23 yrs, my son,s are ages 22, 19, and 14.

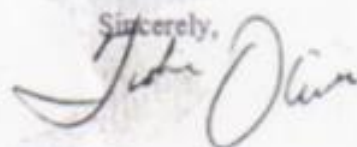
I can never give up
I pray for parole for my mother

To the Board of Clemency,

Hi my name is Tisha Oliver. I am writing this letter on behalf of my mother Sylvia Boykin OC3555. I am 30 years old. My mother has been incarcerated for nearly 17 years. Which is also the number of years I have been in depression and afraid to live. I have never really lived my life. My mother is my everything. I have a 9 year old daughter, of whom I can not raise because of my drug use. I will not make excuses about my drug use, all I do know is I need my mother home with me. There is nothing like a mother's love. In my mother's arms I felt loved, protected, stable and peace. Although my mother does her best of showing it from Muncy, I need her home with me.

My mother is very remorseful for her actions, and has taken every action to rehabilitate her self. My mother speaks of it daily. She serves as a role model in Muncy. My mother's job in Muncy is to teach others how to read and write. She attends church service daily and also has a Pastor who comes and pray with her daily. My mother has always cared for others. Like all people my mother has made some bad decisions in life, in which hurt her family and cost her her life. I truly believe my mother deserve a second chance. Giving my mother a second chance will also allow me a second chance. I am asking for your favor and better judgment in this request. My mother is no threat to society and if anything at all she will be an asset to the community by serving and helping those in need.

Sincerely,



Tisha Oliver

Update

I am now 37yrs old and my mother has been incarcerated 23yrs now, I have 3 daughters of whom I cannot raise due to my mental health/addiction, I need my mother, my life will never be okay without my mother. I pray to God that lifer,s will be granted parole. When they took my mother they took apart of my heart.

PA Board of Pardons for Clemency
C/O Sylvia Boykins OC3555
333 Market St
15th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

To the board of Clemency,

My name is Kimberly Oliver, I am writing this letter on behalf of Sylvia Boykin, my mother. I am 29 years old. I have a 9 year old son, and I also have custody of my 9 year old niece of whom I have been raising mostly all of her life. Since 17 I have been employed with various different employers, but my most recent employer is CCCSDV which I have been employed with for 6 years in August 2009. I am a Christian and have been all of my life. My mother raised us to love God and try our best to living according to his will. My mother and I has always been the best of friends, I remember a time when all I knew was when I grow up I wanted to be just like my mother. Still today I endure those feelings. I see my mother is very strong, remorseful, humble, and responsible. My mother was always this great woman who loved God, her kids and just living life. My sisters and I are very tight knit. My mother raised us to love one another no matter what. Although over the years we have endured a lot of pain we still remain pretty close.

My mother was incarcerated May of 1992. I was 12 years old going on 13. I remember that day, I was in school. I knew something was wrong when my mother failed to appear afterschool to pick us up. My mother never missed a day. When we got home, there was dinner still in the stove waiting for us. When my neighbors told us the news, I remember feeling emptiness and confusion. I believe that's when my life took a turn downward. My grandmother raised us. She passed away July 2007.

My sister Tisha Oliver was never the same after my mother left. She always needed my mother, for stability and guidance. Tisha has been in a depression state since my mother left. She is no longer the strong woman I used to know. She now depends on lethal drugs to suppress her pain; which is the reason my oldest sister Pennie and I am raising my niece. All Tisha speaks of is she needs my mother. I tell her I know what she means; I long for my mother's love at home too. I just deal with it differently. My sister Pennie has developed a chronic life threatening disease; Chronn Disease, from stressing and worrying. She has 3 sons which she raises on her own. I know she needs my mother too. I have developed a heart condition. I have been taking metoprolol for about 3 years now. This pain ways on us so strong it's taking a toll on our health. We are all crying on the inside, but no one wants to show it.

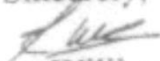
PA Board of Pardons for Clemency
c/o Sylvia Boykin OC-3555
333 Market Street
Harrisburg Pa 17126

To The Board of Clemency,

On behalf of my sister, Sylvia Boykin, I'm writing to you that you might consider her for clemency.

I was really happy to here what the couple Mark and Nancy Nance had to say about Sylvia being Remorseful and taking responsibility for her actions. I know that she would love to come home to be with her children and grandchildren. I hope and pray that one day this will all be behind her, and the Lord will bless and keep her.

Sincerely,


Rosa Williams